## **Special Needs Organizations Committee**

This directory was initially developed to educate and inform individuals, families, and professionals about resources and services within the Rochester area serving persons with Developmental Disabilities. Since the first guide was printed, it has expanded to include resources & services that exist outside of the Rochester area and into the greater Minnesota Region.

The directory is distributed under the name of the "Special Needs Organizations Committee" (SNOCs) and contains resources listed by topic in alphabetical order. Information contained herein has been compiled with the cooperation of representatives of the organizations within.

The content listed is for informational purposes only and is not an endorsement of the services provided by the businesses or agencies listed.

SNOCs ~ 2007 Updated – January 2013 Next update – January 2014

## **Copies can be downloaded from:**

http://www.rochestermn.gov/departments/park/classes programs/adaptive/index.asp

## **Accessibility/Mobility**

## **Accessibility Solutions**

Phone: (507) 252-0555

Email: jon@accessiblemn.com

Website: www.accessibilitysolutionsmn.co

Accessibility Solutions will help make your home functional, safe and accessible while maintaining a comfortable and beautiful living space for individuals challenged by aging, permanent disabilities, mobility issues or temporary handicaps. We make the improvements that will allow you the freedom and comfort to remain in your own home and we offer universal designs that incorporate use for all members of the household. The costs to make these improvements to your home usually are less than moving to a new home, assisted living facility or other care facility. Some services we offer include: handrail installation, wheel chair ramps, bathroom renovations, roll-in showers, grab bar installations, kitchen renovations, vanity sinks, and many other options. For a free consultation, contact us via phone.

## **Anderson's Wheelchair**

Phone: (507) 288-0113 or Toll free 1.800.253-2770

Email: <u>jay@andersonwheelchair.com</u>
Website: <u>www.andersonwheelchair.com</u>

Anderson's Wheelchair is a family owned and operated business located in Rochester, MN, serving the greater South East Minnesota area. Located across from the Rochester Mayo Clinic St. Mary's Hospital facility, Anderson's Wheelchair supplies a complete line of home medical equipment and supplies, but our specialty remains Wheelchairs including: lightweight, heavy duty, electric, sports, custom rehab.

#### Accessibility/Mobility continued . . .

## **Med City Mobility**

Phone: (507)

Website: www.medcityweb.com

Med City Mobility is a full service Durable Medical Equipment (DME) provider serving SE Minnesota since 2000. We provide products such as; wheelchairs, lift chairs, scooters, hospital beds, stair lifts, complex rehab equipment, incontinence products, bathroom safety products and many more. Our vehicle division installs many accessibility products such as hand controls, easy locks, lifts, and ramps. We also do vehicle related modifications such as raised roofs, lowered floors, and seat base installations.

## **Education**

## **Augsburg College – The CLASS Program**

Phone: (612)330-1053 Email: class@augsburg.edu Website: www.augsburg.edu

To assist academically qualified students with disabilities to reach their individual potential, to promote their independence, and to ensure their access to the educational experience at Augsburg College. The CLASS staff includes a Director, Disability Specialists, an Accommodations Specialist, and an Administrative Assistant, all experienced in serving students with disabilities. The Accommodations Specialist provides students with testing accommodations, note taking services, taped textbooks and supervises the computer lab. CLASS also employs many student

#### Education continued . . .

workers, some of whom receive CLASS support. For more information visit our website or contact us by phone or email.

## **Learning Rx Brain Training ~ Rochester Center**

Phone: (507) 206.6757

Email: Website: www.learningrx.com

Just as athletes train the body to become better performers through increased strength, stamina and agility training, individuals of all ages—both children and adults—have increased their academic or work performance through LearningRx Brain Training. Those with ADHD, Reading and Auditory Processing Disorders, TBI, Non-verbal Learning Disorder, PDD-NOS, Autism, and/or Asperger's Syndrome respond well to treatment that is regular and predictable. Brain training through a LearningRx Training Center is highly ordered and establishes rewarding and predictable success. Our programs are individually designed and are delivered one-on-one by certified, sensitive trainers. Progress is regular, systematic and can even be tracked and recognized by our trainees. Training provides more than just a positive structure. It also specifically addresses cognitive needs that are critical to improvement in our clients. Programs range from 12 to 36 weeks and are customized to meet individual goals and needs.

## Minnesota Autism Center ~ Rochester Location

Phone: (952) 767.4200 Email: <u>info@mnautism.org</u> Website: <u>www.mnautism.org</u>

The Minnesota Autism Center (MAC) provides therapeutic support for children, youth and families affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). MAC is staffed by highly trained professionals who provide Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) therapy on an individualized basis with the goal of reducing and eliminating the signs and symptoms of autism in children and youth. For over 14 years, MAC has been committed to providing the highest quality of structured behavioral intervention with the goal of reducing future supplementary support.

#### Education continued . . .

## **Minnesota LIFE College**

Phone: (612) 869.4008 x 10

Email: <u>info@minnesotalifecollege.org</u>
Website: <u>www.minnesotalifecollege.org</u>

We offer a variety of programs for young adults with learning differences. MLC teaches "Real Skills for Real Life™" here: including social development and wellness which focuses on students not only understanding how to access community resources, but also know how to succeed socially in the changing world. Extensive classroom instructions address community participation, fitness and wellness; social interactions; relationships and behaviors and society's unwritten rules, (which are then able to be applied in the community itself in required social activities). Other programs offered include an undergraduate apartment living program, graduate living community program, a vocational readiness & employment program, and summer internship program. For more information, visit our website or contact us directly by phone or email.

## Minnesota State Academy of the Blind

Phone: (800) 657-3634 or (507) 384-6700

Website: www.msab.state.mn.us

The Minnesota State Academy for Blind offers a challenging and rewarding educational experience for blind and visually impaired students from birth through age 21. Licensed teachers of the Blind and Visually Impaired provide formal instruction in small group settings. Emphasis is placed on creating an environment rich in access/exposure to Braille, Assistive Technology, and the expanded core curriculum. The expanded core curriculum includes: Compensatory or functional academic skills, including

#### Education continued . . .

communication modes, orientation and mobility, social interaction skills, independent living skills, recreation and leisure skills, career education, self-determination. Individual Education Plans are designed for each student and implemented throughout the educational program in both school and residential settings. The curriculum is designed to meet Minnesota Graduation Standards while accommodating the unique needs of Blind and Visually Impaired students.

## **Minnesota State Academy of the Deaf**

Phone: (TTY/V) 1.800.657.3996 or (TTY/V) 507.384.6600

Website: www.msad.state.mn.us

The Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf offers a challenging and rewarding educational experience for students, birth through 12th grade. Licensed teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing provide formal instruction in small group settings. Emphasis is placed on creating an environment rich in American Sign Language and English. Individual Education Plans are designed for each student and implemented throughout the educational program in both school and residential settings. The curriculum is designed to meet Minnesota Graduation Standards while accommodating the unique needs of deaf and hard of hearing students.

#### Education continued . . .

## Occupational Skills Program – RCTC

**Program Director: Vicky Keller** 

Phone: (507) 529-2722

Email: Vicky.keller@roch.edu or getinfo@rctc.roch.edu

Website: ww.rctc.edu/catalog/programs

The Occupational Skills Program provides individuals with mild to moderate disabilities the vocational training necessary to obtain and maintain competitive entry level employment. The target population is individuals outside of the sheltered work environment who are unable to succeed in traditional college coursework. OSP is a nine month diploma program. Specific skills needed for employment are taught at the workplace where the student receives training.

## **Rochester Center for Autism (RCA)**

Program Director: Jon Sailor Phone: (507) 424.3234

Email: <u>ionsailer@rcautism.com</u>
Website: www.rcautism.com

The Rochester Center for Autism is a center-based program that provides one-on-one Applied Behavior analysis (ABA) therapy for children with autism. ABA therapy works on the three main impairment areas: communication, social interaction and stereotyped & restricted patterns of behavior. The Center provides assessment, recommendations and administers treatment with ongoing consultation to families in the program.

#### Education continued . . .

## **Rochester Community & Technical College (RCTC)**

**Disability Support Services** 

Phone: (507) 280.2968 Website: www.rctc.edu

Disability Support Services mission is to provide academic support services to assist students with disabilities in achieving their educational goals. Disability support Services is located in the university Center Rochester, in the Student Support Services office.

#### **Rochester Public School District #535**

Student Support Services Division
Student Support Director: Karla Bolleson

Phone: (507) 328-4310

Email: <u>kabollesen@rochester.k12.mn.us</u>
Website: <u>www.rochester.k12.mn.us</u>

The Rochester Public School District's Student Support Services provides support in the following areas:

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH), Developmental Adapted Physical Education (DAPE), Developmental Cognitive Disabilities - Mild/Moderate (DCD-MM), Developmental Cognitive Disabilities - Severe/Profound (DCD-SP), Early Childhood Special Ed (ECSE), Emotional/Behavioral Disorders (EBD), Occupational Therapy (OT), Other Health Disabilities (OHD), Physically Impaired (PI), Physical Therapy (PT), Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD), Speech/Language Impairments, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Visually Impaired (VI), Work Experience Handicapped, Care & Treatment Programs, Day Treatment Program, School Psychologist, School Social Worker, and Student Health Services.

#### Education continued . . .

## **Transition to Adult Program (TAP)**

Phone: (507) 328-4521.

Email: <a href="mailto:nimueller@rochester.k12.mn.us">nimueller@rochester.k12.mn.us</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.rochester.k12.mn.us">www.rochester.k12.mn.us</a>

This is a Rochester Public School program for Rochester high school students who have gone beyond their twelfth year in high school and are receiving service through an Individual Education Plan (IEP)/Special Education. Transition to Adult Program (TAP) provides a community and life-based educational model, separate from the high school setting. Students have completed four years of high school and have additional areas of need that are addressed through IEP goals focused on life skills, individualized for each student. Students develop and utilize supports in the community that will be important for them in their adult lives. Opportunities are provided for learning to be community based through the transition domains: vocational, home living, community participation, recreation/leisure, continuing education, and self-determination. The staff at TAP provides specially designed instruction and practice to develop skills while providing a safety net so that students learn from challenges they may experience.

## **University of the Child**

Director: Liz Mangan Phone: (507) 424-6155

Email: emangan.universityofthechild@gmail.com

Website: www.universityofthechild.com

University of the Child offers an inclusive environment for children of all ability types. Our staff is trained in elements of Applied Behavior Analysis and Skinner's Analysis of Verbal Behavior in order to best serve our children with Pervasive Developmental Disorders. Staff members receive on-going training and development, both on and off

#### Education continued . . .

site. University of the Child will offer enrichment classes for children including beginning sign language and Spanish, group music and art. This inclusive care environment will offer a theme-based curriculum that focuses on the whole child, looking to enhance and expand on each child's emotional, social, physical, and academic development.

## **Employment / Day Programs**

## **Ability Building Center (ABC)**

Phone: (507) 281.6262 Email: <u>info@abcinc.org</u> Website: <u>www.abcinc.org</u>

At Ability Building Center, our mission is to improve the quality of life in Southeastern Minnesota by providing rehabilitation and employment services for persons with disabilities and other special needs. CHOICE is at the heart of ABC's service model. Our goal is to see that every person, regardless of disability, is respected as an individual and is the one whose voice is most clearly heard throughout the entire service design and delivery process. We are dedicated to providing the best in person-centered support, wraparound training and services, and the broadest possible range of work opportunities, both in our facilities and on-site with our community-based <u>business</u> partners.

## **Employment & Day Programs continued...**

## **Ability Options (AO)**

Phone: (507) 280.3486 Email: <u>kathym@abcinc.org</u> Website: <u>www.abcinc.org</u>

Ability Options (AO) - is a licensed program designed to meet the needs of individuals who no longer have the desire or ability to work full time. AO is a recreation and leisure program that promotes growth and activity, and many ABC clients spend some time in AO to complement the time they spend in one of our work programs. Transportation between program locations is provided by ABC. Staff and clients collaborate on a monthly calendar of activities that may include craft-making, baking, exercise, and community-based events like attending the theatre, visiting museums and galleries, and enjoying the outdoors.

## Caring Partners Adult Day Care Program -

## The Salvation Army

**Caring Partners Director: Cindy Gove** 

Phone: (507) 288.5191

Email: cyndy\_gove@usc.salvationarmy.org Website: www.usc.salvationarmy.org

Caring Partners Adult Day Program is a licensed day program for adults who need some assistance with daily living. Caring Partners staff includes a Registered Nurse, Licensed Social Worker, Activities Coordinator, Personal Care Attendants, and Activity Assistants. Current Staff to Participant ratio is 1:5. Caring Partners also works closely with the participants, the primary care giver, and the participant's physician to meet the social and physical needs of each participant.

#### **Employment & Day Programs continued...**

## The Next Step Adult Day Program and Wellness Center

**Program Director: Dana Sigrist** 

Phone: 507-289-7994

Email: dana@thenextstepmn.com
Web: www.thenextstepmn.com

The Next Step Adult Day Program and Wellness Center is a client centered program that serves individuals with a continuum of care approach. We are able to provide that service with our three different departments; Adult Day Program, Apartments with Services and Independent Living Skills (ILS). It is our mission is to improve the quality of life of our consumers by creating personalized services unique to their needs and abilities that promote the highest level of physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual growth. It is our goal is to find "just the right challenge" for each program participant. We provide service to individuals 18 years and older that have survived a brain injury and/or have mental illness.

## **Opportunity Services – Rochester**

**Rochester Contact: Amber Gauerke** 

Phone: (507) 252.1597 Email: <a href="mailto:amberg@oppserv.org">amberg@oppserv.org</a> Website: <a href="www.oppserv.org">www.oppserv.org</a>

OS offers four distinct employment services to the clients of Olmsted County and have experienced tremendous growth and excellent feedback for all of our services. OS currently serves over 100 clients in Olmsted County and looks forward to continuing to grow and build on our early success. Services include: <a href="Independent Services">Independent Services</a>, <a href="Community Work Program">Community Living Program</a>, and <a href="Enhanced Services">Enhanced Services</a>.

#### **Employment & Day Programs continued...**

#### PossAbilities of Southern MN

**Program Coordinator: Linda Driessen** 

Phone: (507) 281-6116

Email: <a href="mailto:ldriessen@possabilities.org">ldriessen@possabilities.org</a></a><br/>Website: <a href="mailto:www.possabilities.org">www.possabilities.org</a></a>

A non-profit agency committed to serving children and adults with disabilities. We provide meaningful work and community opportunities, including volunteerism and community outings. Programming is offered in the areas of Supported Employment, Life Enrichment, Senior Services, Employer of Record, School to Work and Youth Recreation (school and summer).

## **Health/Therapy Related Services**

#### **Bluestem Center**

A Center for Child & Family Development

Phone: (507) 282-1009

Email: <u>info@bluestemcenter.com</u>
Website: www.bluestemcenter.com

We specialize in the <u>diagnosis</u> and treatment of children, adolescents, and adults with neuro-developmental disorders, including:
Adolescent Mental Health, Anxiety, Attachment Issues, Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Autism and Asperger's Disorder, Behavior changes after medical illness or injury, Chemical Abuse and Dependency, Depression or Grief, Developmental-Behavioral Services, Family, Couples and Individual Therapy, Habit and Tic Disorders of Childhood, Interdisciplinary Treatment Planning, Learning and school problems, school refusal, Medications for Children, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Oppositional & Conduct

#### Health/Therapy Related Services continued . . .

Disorders, Pervasive Developmental Disorders, Play Therapy, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and Tourette's syndrome.

## **Dreaming Tree Behavioral Center, Inc.**

**Certified Behavior Analyst** 

Clinical Director: Amy Mahlum, MS, BCBA

Phone: (507) 272-5646

Email: <u>dreamingtreebehavioralcenter@gmail.com</u> Website: <u>www.dreamingtreebehavioralcenter.com</u>

"Creating individualized dream plans for children utilizing Applied Behavior

Analysis for children and their families."

Dreaming Tree Behavioral Center, Inc. provides Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services in Rochester and the surrounding communities. Our service areas include academics, self-help, social skills training (group and 1:1), toilet training programs, feeding programs, and challenging behavior programs. Dreaming Tree Behavioral Center, Inc. employs a full-time Board Certified Behavior Analyst to write and oversee all programming goals.

## **Dentistry for Children & Adolescents, LTD**

Dr. Candace A. Mensing & Dr. Robyn R. Loewen

Phone: (507) 288-8060

Email: <u>team@dentistryforchildrenrochester.com</u>
Website: <u>www.dentistryforchildrenrochester.com</u>

Dr.s Mensing & Loewen specialize in dentistry for all children including youth with special needs. For more information, please call or visit our website.

#### Health/Therapy Related Services continued . . .

## **Community Dental Care**

Phone: (507) 285-4046
Email: info@cdentc.org
Website: www.cdentc.org

Preventive and restorative dental care for children and families. CDC accepts MA and other insurance or self-pay. Multi-lingual services. On bus line. Located in Heintz Center on RCTC campus.

## Jenny Kruse Music Therapy, LLC

## **Certified Music Therapist**

Phone: (507) 282-3730

Email: jennymkruse@gmail.com

Jenny Kruse has a BA in music and psychology from St. Olaf College as well as an Equivalency and MA in Music Therapy from the University of Iowa. She has worked extensively with individuals with neurological and cognitive disorders and believes that music can be an effective tool for facilitating development, rehabilitation, learning, communication, relaxing, socializing, and having fun.

## **Achievement Therapy Services**

Jennifer Leuthold Phone: (507) 226-8844

Email: jen@achievementtherapyservices.com
Website: www.achievementtherapyservices.com

We provide evaluation and individual/group therapy services for all ages, both children and adults, for individuals with speech and language impairments. We also provide Social Language Groups for children ages 3-18 with Asperger's Syndrome, high functioning Autism, and other discords affecting social language skills.

#### Health/Therapy Related Services continued . . .

#### **NAMI of Southeast Minnesota**

Phone: (507) 287.1692

Website: www.nami-semn.org

NAMI Southeast Minnesota's Mission is to improve the lives of individuals affected by mental illness through education, support, research, and advocacy. We are here to offer support, education, advocacy, and hope. We strive to be the region's voice on mental illness. NAMI is here to help you and your loved ones get the information and support you need to experience the fullest level of recovery possible.

# **Southeastern Minnesota Center for Independent Living, INC.** (SEMCIL)

Phone: Voice (507) 285.1815 Toll Free (888) 460.1815 Website: <u>www.semcil.org</u>

SEMCIL assists persons with disabilities to improve their ability to live independently in the community, helps individuals learn independent living skills, and assists persons with disabilities to achieve their individual goals. Independent Living Skills training assists persons with disabilities to learn skills and accomplish their individual goals. The program is individualized, goal oriented, and outcome based. The length of services is determined by the progress that is made in accomplishing specific goals. Consumers work one on one with independent living staff in a variety of areas: budgeting, how to use Public Transportation, time management, meal planning & preparation, leisure and social skills, housing search, housekeeping skills, employment.

### Health/Therapy Related Services continued . . .

## **Stanley Jones & Associates Therapy Services**

**Program Administrator: Pat Mrdjenovich-Hanks** 

Phone: (507) 288-0064

Email: <u>info@sjatherapyservices.com</u> Website: <u>www.sjatherapyservices.com</u>

Stanley Jones & Associates (SJA) is a Medicare certified homecare and rehabilitation outpatient provider specializing in physical, occupational and speech therapy services. Our licensed and compassionate staff provides services to individuals of all ages in their homes in Rochester and the surrounding communities. Home health aides are provided to clients who require personal cares and qualify for services; nursing may also be provided on a limited basis. Therapists treat children with challenges such as autism spectrum disorder, fine and gross motor delays, speech/language delays, and physical disabilities in our outpatient clinic. Adults with speech/language disorders are also welcome at our clinic. SJA also has many therapists with advanced training in specialized areas of service to meet your child's individual needs.

## **Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center**

Phone: 507.289.2089 or 1.800.422.0161

Website: www.zumbromhc.org

Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center enhances the quality of life for people in Southeastern Minnesota by serving as a community resource for the understanding and treatment of mental health and substance use disorders. Ranging from telephone hotlines to inpatient treatment facilities to our pharmacy, Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center provides a continuum of care options. Programs focus on a client-centered approach, and our multidisciplinary teams work closely together to tailor treatment plans around each client's personal strengths and abilities.

## **Recreation/Activities**

## **Allegro School of Dance & Music**

Contact: Janet Johnson Phone: 507.288.0125

Email: <a href="mailto:info@allegrodancemusic.com">info@allegrodancemusic.com</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.allegrodancemusic.com">www.allegrodancemusic.com</a>

Allegro hosts both a youth (ages 6-12) and adult dance program for individuals with developmental disabilities. Dance classes provide an opportunity for individuals to socialize, explore their physical movement and motor skills, express themselves, and gain healthy body awareness. For more information, contact us!

## **Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch**

**Executive Director: Bob Bardwell Office Manager: Mary Ann Schultz** 

Phone: (507) 533.4315

Email: <a href="mailto:bob@ironwoodsprings.com">bob@ironwoodsprings.com</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.ironwoodsprings.com">www.ironwoodsprings.com</a>

Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch is a non-profit, non-denominational, year-round camp located on 200 acres along the Root River in SE Minnesota. Ironwood serves over 22,000 people annually through our campground, special events, horseback riding, youth camps, wheelchair & sports camps, and family camps. For more information visit our website or contact us directly.

#### Recreation & Activities continued . . .

## **Parks & Recreation Department**

The Adaptive Recreation Program

**Adaptive Recreation Director: Karen Meyer** 

Phone: (507) 328.2539

Email: kmeyer@rochestermn.gov

Website: www.rochestermn.gov/parks

The Adaptive Recreation program is a year-round <u>therapeutic</u> sports & leisure program for individuals' ages 3 years through adulthood with developmental disabilities. Activities include a one-one swim program, bowling, crafts, music therapy, soccer, softball, movie nights, dances, summer day camps, teen & transitional activities, weekend activities, and more. For additional information, visit our website or contact the program director by phone.

## **PossAbilities Youth Rec. Program**

**Program Coordinator: Robyn Befort** 

Phone: (507) 208.6248

Email: <u>RBefort@PossAbilities.org</u>
Website: <u>www.possabilities.org</u>

PossAbilities Youth Rec program provides integrated and adaptive recreation programming for youth with disabilities from the age of 2 1/2 to 21. The daily activities of this program are designed to integrate and connect youth in the program with other youth in the community. The time spent with the Youth Recreation Program will be full of activities specifically determined by you. When enrolling in our services, you and your family will be asked to share what type of activities and programs you want.

#### Recreation & Activities continued . . .

#### **Recreation Lanes**

Rec Adaptive Athletes Program (RAAP)

Phone: (507) 288.2601 Email: <u>info@reclanes.com</u> Website: <u>www.reclanes.com</u>

Recreation Lanes Bowling Alley offers both a Non-sanctioned Bumper league & a sanctioned league for youth and adults with intellectual and physical disabilities. Bowlers must be accompanied by a Personal Care Attendant to assist with any and all services. To get involved contact us by email or phone.

## RideAbility

**Program Director: Jeanie Michelizzi** 

Phone: (507) 356.8154

Email: <u>rideability@yahoo.com</u> Website: <u>www.rideability.org</u>

RideAbility provides therapeutic, recreational, and instructional horseback riding lesson and equine-related activities to individuals with disabilities and their families. RideAbility is run by a volunteer staff. Classes are offered in four sessions per year with private lessons also available.

#### Recreation & Activities continued . . .

## **Rochester Community Education**

Adults with Disabilities Program

**Program Coordinator: Stephanie Conkright** 

Phone: (507) 328.4000

Email: <a href="mailto:STCONKRIGHT@rochester.k12.mn.us">STCONKRIGHT@rochester.k12.mn.us</a>

Website: www.rochester.k12.mn.us

The Adults with Disabilities Program offers classes in the areas of Hobbies and Crafts, Leisure, Physical Fitness, Music and Art, and Community Awareness. The Adults with Disabilities Program offers a Fall, Winter, and Spring brochure which are mailed directly to group homes or individuals.

## Special Olympics Minnesota – Rochester Area (SORA)

Sports Program Associate Area 10: Frank Spaeth (507) 993-7466

Email: frank.spaeth@somn.org

Head of Rochester Delegation: Aimee Tillman (507) 993-2561

Email: <a href="mailto:specialolympicsrochester@gmail.com">specialolympicsrochester@gmail.com</a> Website: <a href="mailto:www.specialolympicsminnesota.org">www.specialolympicsminnesota.org</a>

Special Olympics Rochester Area (SORA) offers athletes ages 8 and older, with intellectual disabilities year-round sports training and competition for individuals of all ability levels. Athletes live primarily in Olmsted, Dodge, and Goodhue counties. Sports offered include: Aquatics, Basketball (Full and Half Court), Bocce, Bowling, Floor Hockey, Golf, Softball, and Track and Field. SORA also participates in the Special Olympics Minnesota program, Athletes as Leaders. Through Special Olympics Minnesota's athletic, health and leadership programs, people with intellectual disabilities transform themselves, their communities and the world.

#### Recreation & Activities continued . . .

Stay up to date on SORA offerings and sports signups by joining our mailing list by sending a request to <a href="mailto:specialolympicsrochester@gmail.com">specialolympicsrochester@gmail.com</a>.

## **Special Religious Education (SPRED)**

**Program Coordinator: Shirley Russo** 

Phone: (507) 289.2607

SPRED is a non-denominational program for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Meetings are held weekly on Mondays from 7-8 p.m. at Lourdes High School during the school-year, when school is in session. To register, contact Shirley Russo.

## **Residential & Housing Services**

## **Alpha-Services**

**Executive Director: Dr. Aderonke Mordi** 

**Program Director: Jayne Johnson** 

Phone: (507) 252.8117 Email: <u>info@alphaiqh.com</u> Website: <u>www.alphaiqh.com</u>

Alpha services provides group home services, respite care, youth transitional housing services, 24 hour staffing, corporate foster care for adults with serious and persistent mental illness (SPMI), and in-home support to caregivers and their loved ones. For more information, please contact us by phone or email.

## Residential & Housing Services continued . . .

## **ARSYS, LLC**

**Executive Directors: Kevin Smith & Kevin Ward** 

Phone: (507) 536.9221

Email: kevins@arsysllc.com & kevinw@arsysllc.com

Website: www.arsysllc.com

The mission of ARSYS (A Road to support Your Self) is to provide client with opportunities and experiences that enrich their lives. ARSYS is dedicated to providing the highest quality of service and to being the best choice for their clients. We have a variety of different services to meet people's needs include one:one in-home or in the community support services, the CHIP (Community Home Integration Program) helping clients to work on skill building and social skills in 1:3 staff to client ratio. Our respite home serves up to 4 clients on the weekends and we provide residential support through group home settings in Rochester.

## **Bear Creek Services**

**Program Director: Diane Sellner** 

Phone: (507) 288.7195

Email: <u>dianes@BearCreekServices.org</u>
Website: <u>www.bearcreekservices.org</u>

Bear Creek Services aims to provide the highest quality of support and services to individuals with developmental disabilities and traumatic brain injury. Support for our residents is much more than just affordable housing. We provide assistance with transportation, medical care and offer recreational activities. Additionally, we partner with the Parks & Recreation Department's Adaptive Recreation program in order to provide recreational opportunities for youth,

#### Residential & Housing Services continued . . .

teens and adults through weekly and weekend activities. For more information OR to become a volunteer, contact us by phone or through our website.

## **Cardinal of Minnesota, LTD.**

**President: Jack Priggen** 

**Program Administrator: Carol Johnson** 

Phone: (507) 281.1077

Email: <a href="mailto:carol@cardinalofminnesota.com">carol@cardinalofminnesota.com</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.cardinalofminnesota.com">www.cardinalofminnesota.com</a>

Cardinal of Minnesota is a residential service provider that prides itself on an individualized approaches to serving its clients with developmental disabilities. We work with staff and those we serve based on our mission of providing a safe, happy, living environment for our clients. We provide services in home settings developed by the agency, or we can provide service in the client's own home. Our services include: assisting with personal cares, recommended therapies, medications, community integrations, independent living skills, activities, and medical needs.

## Hiawatha Homes, Inc.

**Executive Director: Cindy Ostrowski** 

Phone: (507) 289.7222

Email: <a href="mailto:costrowski@hiawathahomes.org">costrowski@hiawathahomes.org</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.hiawathahomes.org">www.hiawathahomes.org</a>

Hiawatha Homes, Inc. is a local non-profit agency that is dedicated to establishing and conducting home and community based services for people with disabilities and specialized medical needs. Hiawatha Homes, Inc. services children, adults, and families with developmental disabilities, physical impairments, traumatic brain injury, specialized

#### Residential & Housing Services continued . . .

medical needs, limited mental health issues, autism spectrum disorder, and other health disabilities. Hiawatha Homes offers programs and services in: nursing and support therapies, recreational activities, community involvement, advocacy for people supported by our program and respite support.

## **Housing Access Services Program**

**Contact: Housing Advocate at The Arc Southeastern Minnesota** 

Email: mail@arcse-mn.org Phone: (507) 287-2032

Website: www.arcse-mn.org

The Housing Access Services Program is a partnership of The Arc of Minnesota and the Minnesota Department of Human Services. The HASP helps eligible Minnesota adults with disabilities seek and locate suitable, affordable, accessible housing. Who is eligible? Adult Minnesotans of all ages who have been assessed and determined to be eligible for Minnesota Medicaid home care or waiver services who want to move to homes of their own.

## **Howry Residential Services**

**Executive Director: Jennifer O'Neill** 

Phone: (651) 917.9111

Email: kkoshenina@howryinc.com
Website: www.howryinc.com

Howry Residential Services specializes in support services for children and adults with traumatic brain injuries, developmental disabilities, and mental illness. Services are offered in the Rochester area and include Adult Foster Care: In-home Support: Behavior Services: Family Counseling: and Independent Living Skills. HRS employs a

#### Residential & Housing Services continued . . .

team of professionals who work in tandem with the consumers. We all believe that systems drive supports and to that end we train our staff to feel empowered as such.

# **Minnesota State Operated Community Services** (MSOCS)

Phone: (651) 766.4117

Website: www.dhs.state.mn.us

SOS is a division of the Minnesota Department of Human Services. It consists of an array of campus & community-based programs AS well as residential services serving people with mental illness, developmental disabilities, chemical dependency and traumatic brain injury as well as people who pose a risk to society. Services are provided by more than 4,000 employees in a variety of roles such as psychiatrists, psychologists, nurses, human services technicians, occupational therapists, social workers, licensed chemical and dependency counselors.

## **REM River Bluffs**

Regional Director: Karina Schmitz, Regional Director

Phone: 507-287.6824

Email: <u>karina.schmitz@thementornetwork.com</u>

Website: www.remminnesota.com

REM River Bluffs, Inc. in Rochester, MN works with Olmsted, Winona and Wabasha counties where we have been providing services for

#### Residential Services continued . . .

over 30 years. Other counties may be served through host county concurrence agreements. Individuals living with intellectual developmental disability (also autism spectrum disorder) (including ex-offenders), brain injury, mental health issues or physical disabilities participate in our programs. Services provided include Community Supportive Living homes (24/7 care), ICF/MR sites, In Home Hourly Support services and Respite services. Funding is arranged through county waiver (CADI, MR/RC, TBI NF TBI NB, EW), workers compensation, private pay and other insurance. Please contact us with questions or for more information. We welcome your interest in our programs.

## Mains'l Services, Inc.

**Executive Assistant: Tracy Hinkemeyer** 

Phone: 1.800-441-6525, Ext. 109 Email: tehinkemeyer@mainsl.com

Website: www.mainsl.com

Our mission at Mains'l Services is to "offer innovative supports to people, responding to their hopes and dreams." Mains'l offers a variety of support options, including College Plus, Independent and Semi-Independent Living, Consumer Directed Community Services, Daily and 24-Hour Supervised Living, In-Home, Nursing, and Behavioral Services. Our behavioral services are provided by qualified professionals (including Board Certified Behavior Analysts.) Mains'l also offers specialized behavioral training to caregivers, which can be offered on site. We have been offering supports to people since 1989. Mains'l supports people to be as independence as possible. All supports are personalized, so each person is able to realize their goals and plans for their future.

#### Residential Services continued . . .

### **SMB Homes Adult Foster Care & Residential Services**

**Executive Directors: Steve and Marita Buehler** 

Phone: (507) 292.7944

Email: <u>info@smbhomes.com</u> Website: <u>www.smbhomes.com</u>

SMB Homes' first priority is to provide personal, individualized care for our residents. All of our homes are Rule 203 licensed and staffed with a live-in home manager. Some of the services received by residents include: Individualized Care Planning, private bedrooms, wireless internet access, and cable T.V. Staff also provide assistance with personal care, well-balanced meals & snacks, and assistance with medications administration. Health monitoring and a personal escort to doctor's appointments is provided by our staff nurse. Some of SMB Homes activities include: individual weekly schedules, activities on evenings, weekends, holidays and group YMCA trips. Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy are available upon request.

## **Wing House**

**Executive Director:** Lesley Hauser

Phone: (507) 282.0868

Email: <a href="mailto:lhauser@winghouse.org">lhauser@winghouse.org</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.winghouse.org">www.winghouse.org</a>

Wing House is a transitional care facility designed to assist adult survivors of brain injuries. We provide a comfortable, home-like environment for people with brain injuries who exhibit cognitive impairments and behaviors which prevent them from living independently. Wing House employs living skills advisors and behavior aids, who assists residents with activities of daily living. The trained professionals of Wing House provide a structured environment which includes supportive supervision and behavioral intervention. Our goal is to prepare residents for independent living by providing assistance with personal hygiene, meals, employment, medication administration, and development of behavioral care plan goals.

## **Resources & Services**

#### The Arc Southeastern Minnesota

**Executive Director: Buff Hennessey** 

Phone: (507) 287.2032 or (888) 732.8520

Email: <a href="mail@arcse-mn.org">mail@arcse-mn.org</a>
Website: <a href="www.arcse-mn.org">www.arcse-mn.org</a>

The Arc Southeastern Minnesota is a non-profit volunteer driven organization that builds inclusive communities by providing support, education and advocacy to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. The Arc Southeastern MN provides community awareness through newsletters, seminars, and media contacts. Parent training and education, as well as information and referral, and support groups are all part of The Arc's services. Some of our programs:

Advocacy for individuals with a developmental disability and their families is a priority at our agency. Advocacy is an activity which can be used to ensure the protection of constitutional rights and to meet social and emotional needs of people with developmental disabilities. The goal of advocacy is to enable people to develop to their maximum potential in the least restrictive and most normal setting that is possible for them. It is important to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families that someone is there to listen, support and help them sort out options in their given situation.

**SAM (Self-Advocates Minnesota)** SAM is a network of self-advocates, advisor, allies, friends, family, and professionals-led by self-advocates. The main focus of the group is to build a statewide network to help people with developmental disabilities know their rights through personal and group action.

#### Resources & Services continued . . . .

The ArcPlan of Southeastern Minnesota is a unique program hosted through The Arc Southeastern Minnesota that provides options to families concerned about the future lifetime care and quality of life of a loved one with a chronic disability and/or mental illness. The ArcPlan provides services and supports when family members are not available or are unable to do so. These supports can relieve family members and close friends of overwhelming responsibilities, support groups are all part of The Arc's services. To find out more about us, please call or visit our website.

## **Autism Risk Management**

**Dennis Debbaudt** 

Email: ddpi@flash.net

Website: www.autismriskmanagement.com

Autism training and resources for law enforcement, emergency first responders, parents, educators, care providers, and the autism

community.

## **Disability Linkage Line**

Phone: 1.800.333.2466

Website: www.MinnesotaHelp.info

Disability Linkage Line is a state-wide information and referral resource for Minnesotans with disabilities for chronic illnesses, their family members and service providers. The information is free of

charge.

## **Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota**

Rochester Area Program Director - Vicki Snyder

Phone: 507.287.2103

Email: vsnyder@efmn.org

Website: www.epilepsyfoundationmn.org

The Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota is a non-profit organization focused on enhancing the quality of life of those affected by seizures. The foundation is an affiliate of the National Epilepsy Foundation. Founded in 1954 the Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota provides programs and services for those with epilepsy and those that care for and about them. The foundation provides; epilepsy education and awareness programs, information and referral services, advocacy, and support, youth and family programs and used clothing donation center.

#### **Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota**

Phone: 1.800.582.5260 Website: <u>www.lssmng.org</u>

LSS operates a statewide network of supervised communityho9mes and semi-independent living situations that promote a high quality of life standard which fosters independence and socialization within the community. LSS also offer in-home support and respite care for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. Services are designed to ensure that people with disabilities have access to services, have meaningful relationships with others, and have the opportunity to contribute to community life.

#### Resources & Services continued . . . .

## **Minnesota Council on Foundations**

## Minnesota Grant Makers Online

Website: www.mcf.org

MCF maintains the most comprehensive searchable database of Minnesota foundations, corporate grant makers and grants called

Minnesota Grant makers.

#### Minnesota Hands & Voices

Voice (651) 265.2435

Toll Free 1.866.DHOH-KID

TTY 651.265.2379

Website: www.mnhandsandvoices.org

MN Hands & Voices is a private not-for-profit program at Lifetrack Resources. Funding is provided through the Minnesota State Legislature, grants and the financial investment of our community members and local businesses. Our mission is to provide a variety of support services to families of children who have been recently identified as deaf or hard of hearing, as well as families further along in their journey. We provide information, support and referral to families learning of their child's hearing loss. We can discuss your concerns with you, send you information related to different topics of interest, and refer you to other organizations and information sources that you may find helpful.

## **Minnesota STAR Program**

Contact the Intake Worker: (507) 328.6400 Website: www.starprogram.state.mn.us

STAR's mission is to help **all Minnesotans** with disabilities gain access to and acquire the assistive technology they need to live, learn, work and play. The Minnesota STAR Program is federally funded by the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

## **Olmsted County Community Services**

## **Case Management Services**

For persons with Developmental Disabilities & Related Conditions

Contact the Intake Worker: (507) 328.6400

Website: www.co.olmsted.mn.us

Case management services for eligible individuals who have a diagnosis of a developmental disability or a related condition, as well as deficits in adaptive functioning, which manifested before the 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday. Once eligibility for services has been determined the family or individual will be assigned a case manager. The case manager will offer assistance with: identification of needs for supports and services, identification of availability and potential funding sources for services, advocacy and service coordination, developing a plan and making referrals to community resources as appropriate, monitor services provided.

#### **PACER CENTER**

Phone: (952) 838.9000 or TTY: (952) 838.0190

Email:

Website: pacer@pacer.org

PACER is staffed primarily by parents of children with disabilities and works in coalition with 18 disability organizations. PACER's mission is to expand opportunities and enhance the quality of life of children and young adults with disabilities and their families, based on the concept of parents helping parents.

Resources & Services continued . . . .

## **Parenting Plus through PAIIR**

Supporting Parents with Cognitive Disabilities

**Contact: Peggy O'Toole -Martin** 

Phone: (507) 328.4023

Email: maotoole-mar@rochester.k12.mn.us

Website: www.rochesterce.org

Parenting Plus unites the knowledge, resources and skills of Olmsted County Community Services, Olmsted County Public Health Services, Arc of Southeastern Minnesota and Parents Are Important In Rochester (PAIIR), the Rochester Public Schools Early Childhood Family Education program, in working with parents who

have cognitive disabilities.

## **PAIIR Parenting Children with Challenging Behaviors**

Ages 2-5 Years

Phone: (507) 328-4020

**Email:** <u>jenelson2@rochester.k12.mn.us</u> **Website:** <u>www.rochesterce.org/paiir</u>

This free class uses a video-based program developed with parents to address issues of greatest concern to parents of children with challenging behaviors. Brief parent homework each week lets you try new strategies and get feedback from the parent educator. Class enrollment is based on need. A simple questionnaire to identify need is required before registration is complete. **Referrals are welcome.** Limited sibling care is available. Call PAIIR at 328-4020 for more information.

## PAIIR Parenting a Child with Special Needs Group -

Ages birth through grade 5

Phone: (507) 328.4020

Email: <u>JENELSON2@rochester.k12.mn.us</u>
Website: <u>www.rochesterce.org/paiir</u>

The Parenting a Child with Special Needs group is for parents with children ages birth through grade 5 who have a delay, disability or illness. Topics are chosen by parents and discussion is led by a licensed parent educator. This series meets one Monday per month, September through July, from 6:00 - 7:45 PM. Limited child care is available. Registration is required. Register online at or call PAIIR at 328-4020. Families are welcome to register for one or all classes. No fee.

## **Southern MN Assistive Technology Center**

**Equipment Loan Program: Michael Brower, ATP** 

Phone: (507) 281.6262

MN Relay: 711 or 800.627.3529 Email: Michaelb@abcinc.org Website: www.abcinc.org

SMATC a program of the Ability Building Center maintains an equipment loan program designed to provide persons with disabilities an opportunity to borrow assistive technology equipment for use at home or school for evaluation, recreation or other short-term use. SMATC also operates a device demonstration program where assistive technology equipment can be demonstrated to determine if the device meets the individual's needs before a purchase decision is made.

#### Resources & Services continued . . . .

### **PROJECT C-3**

Phone: (952) 838.9000 toll-free (888) 248.0822

Email: C3@c3online.org

Website:

Project C3 is a project of PACER Center, in cooperation with Pathways to Employment, Minnesota Department of Human Services, Minnesota Department of Education, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, Minnesota State Council on Disability, and various state and local youth serving agencies. Project C3 is to improve transition outcomes for youth through facilitated collaboration, resource mapping, Communities of Practice, training, and advocacy.

## **Minnesota Region 10 Quality Assurance**

Contact: Dan Zimmer, Director Email: danz@mn-voice.org Phone: (507) 287-2032

Website: www.mn-voice.org

Minnesota Region 10 Quality Assurance is a Quality Assurance and Alternative Licensing System. QA has been around since 1997 and is funded by the Minnesota State Legislature. The purpose of the Minnesota Region 10 Quality Assurance System is to continually improve the assistance provided to individuals with developmental disabilities. We do this by assessing the value people experience through the support and services received at home, at work or school and throughout the community. By combining results from an ongoing series of these assessments, we are able to develop an accurate sense of the patterns of support in our community. We are also able identify "best practices," which we want spread throughout the system, and to focus on situations where improvement is needed.

## **Region 10 Stakeholders**

Contact: Harry R. Nevling Phone: (507) 289.8989

Email: hrnevling@hotmail.com

Region 10 Stakeholders is comprised of people with disabilities, parents/advocates, providers, and support persons who promote information on disabilities and support through quality of life and legislative issues for those with disabilities.

## **Rochester Area Brain Injury Community Committee (BICC)**

Contact: Harry R. Nevling Phone: (507) 289.8989

Email: <a href="mailto:hrnevling@hotmail.com">hrnevling@hotmail.com</a>

The BICC is comprised of persons with brain injury, members of families affected by brain injury, and representatives from many agencies which provide services & supports for persons with brain injury. Its mission is to coordinate and promote development of community resources and awareness for persons with traumatic and other acquired brain injuries to enhance quality of life and community involvement. Additional information at www.rochesterbicc.org.

## **ROCHESTERfamilies.com**

Contact: Lindy Lange Phone: (507) 536.4856

Email: <u>lindy@rochesterfamilies.com</u>
Website: <u>www.rochesterfamilies.com</u>

ROCHESTERfamilies.com is your family's local, online clearinghouse of youth- and family-oriented special events, activities, classes, workshops, support groups, summer camps and more. Visit our Kid Classes, Things To Do/Places To Go, K-12 Resources and Special Needs Web page. Check out our online Calendar of Events. Subscribe to our free, weekly email newsletter.

Resources & Services continued . . .

## **Rochester Public Library**

Phone: (507) 328.2309

Website: www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org

Text Message: (507) 722.1581 (all texting charges apply)

Rochester Public Library has an adaptive computer workstation for people who are blind, have low vision, or reading/learning disabilities. The workstation is equipped with adaptive technology which allows people with visual disabilities to use the library's online catalog and surf the Internet. The workstation is located on the second floor of the library. Please go to the reference desk for assistance in using the Adaptive Workstation.

## **RT Autism Awareness Foundation, Inc.**

**Executive Director: Brad Trahan** 

Phone: 507-254-8901

Email: <a href="mailto:rtautism@yahoo.com">rtautism@yahoo.com</a>

Website: www.rtautismawareness.org

The RT (Reece Trahan) Autism Awareness aims to enhance the quality of life for children with autism and their families through support, advocacy, awareness, and education. The RT Autism Awareness Foundation spearheaded Project Lifesaver in partnership with the Olmsted County Sheriff's Department, and held the first Autism Awareness Day at the Capitol. RTAAF periodically publishes a newsletter which is available on our website. Additionally, we have a support group that meets monthly. Check out our website for more information on advocacy, events, and news.

## **Social Odyssey**

Contact: Susan Powers Phone: (507) 252.5790

Email: <u>SusanCKPowers@gmail.com</u> Website: <u>socialodyssey.webs.com</u>

Our mission is to enhance awareness and understanding of these conditions while encouraging all involved continue to discover the

gifts and potential each of us have within.

**Social Odyssey** is the name of a group of individuals in Rochester, MN who seek to support and encourage family members and friends affected by developmental conditions that impair social and executive functioning. These conditions are typically included in the autistic spectrum of pervasive developmental disorders such as Asperger's Syndrome (AS), High Functioning autism (HFA), Non-verbal Learning Disorder (NLD) and Pervasive Developmental Disorder -- Not otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS). We meet the third Thursday of the month. For more information please contact us.

## **United Way of Olmsted County**

Contact: April Sutor Phone: (507) 287.1533

Email: <a href="mailto:aprils@uwolmsted.org">aprils@uwolmsted.org</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.uwolmsted.org">www.uwolmsted.org</a>

United Way works to unite people and resources to improve lives in Olmsted County. The organization is uniquely positioned to bring together a diverse mix of resources and invest them strategically to help people and strengthen the community in more effective ways. United Way is a partner in change, working with a broad range of people and organization to identify and resolve address pressing

#### Resources & Services continued . . .

community issues. 2-1-1 is a 24-hour information and referral service of the United Way that is free, confidential and multi-lingual. For more information please visit our website or call 2-1-1.

## **Transportation**

## **Alternative Transportation**

Phone: (507) 358-7014

Website: none

Please use the contact number for more information.

#### Handi-Van of Rochester LLC

Phone: (507) 281-3600

Email: contact@myhandivan.com Website: www.myhandivan.com

We have a variety of transportation vans to meet your individual needs by professional, caring and courteous drivers that will treat you with the utmost respect during your time with us. Our drivers have completed training courses in defensive driving, first aid, abuse prevention and passenger assistance to make your transportation service as safe and comfortable as possible. Additionally, we offer tips and helpful information in getting set up with financial aid and insurance claim submittals for long term care and special needs.

### **Transportation continued...**

## **R & S Transportation**

Kids on the Go

Phone: (507) 289.5080 or 1.800.656.5080

Website: www.rochesterce.org

R&S Transport, Inc. was started in 1990 to provide specialized transportation services (STS) for people in southeastern Minnesota. Our company has been built on a reputation of safe, reliable and caring service- "A Helping Hand in Every Van." Our drivers are specially trained to serve the diverse needs of our clients and meet the stringent requirements of the Minnesota Department of Transportation. We utilize ambulatory (7 passenger), wheelchair, and stretcher vans. Our entire fleet of vehicles is certified by the Minnesota Department of Transportation and is maintained by our on-site experienced maintenance staff. STS is door-through-door transportation service where we assist clients with transportation needs for medical appointments, hospital/clinic discharges, daily travel and group outings. We are an approved Medical Assistance (MA) and Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) STS provider. We also offer affordable rates for private clients.

## **Safeway Travel**

Phone: (507) 287.1533

Please use the contact number for more information.

#### Transportation continued . . .

## **Rochester City Lines**

Phone: (507) 288-4353

Website: www.rochestercitylines.com

Whether you want a ride in Rochester on a transit bus or you want to kick back on a commuter motor coach, or if you'd like to charter a trip for your group, we'll help you out! We work hard to serve you with transportation that's safe, comfortable, affordable and convenient.

#### **ZIPs**

Contact: Scott Retzlaff Phone: (507) 328.2439

Email: <a href="mailto:sretzlaff@rochestermn.gov">sretzlaff@rochestermn.gov</a> Website: <a href="mailto:www.rochesterbus.com">www.rochesterbus.com</a>

The Zumbro Independent Passenger Service (ZIPS) is a door-to-door transportation system for persons who cannot use Rochester City Lines' bus service due to a disability. All ZIPS vehicles are wheelchair accessible. Eligibility is determined using federal guidelines established by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Rides are provided for any purpose. Whether a rider is traveling to a doctor's appointment, going shopping or meeting friends for dinner, all trips are treated equally.

## **Travel/Vacation**

## Autism on the Seas Kids on the Go

Phone: 1.800.516.5247

Email: msobbell@alumnicruises.org or

jgrover@alumnicruises.org

Website: www.alumnicruises.org

We are dedicated to providing vacation and travel options for individuals and families living with Special Needs, including, but not limited to, Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and all Cognitive, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

## **Disabled Travelers.com**

Phone: (866) 748.8747

Email: <u>jeremy@disabledtravelers.com</u> Website: <u>www.disabledtravelers.com</u>

There are many different tour operators that offer accessible travel & tours. Some specialize in cruises, safaris, scuba diving, travel with service dogs, and group travel, while others can arrange a wide variety of tours for individuals or groups.

#### Travel & Vacation continued . . .

## **Camp Buckskin**

Phone: Winter (763) 208.4805

Summer (218) 365.2121

Email: info@campbuckskin.com Website: www.campbuckskin.com

We are an overnight summer camp program that specializes in serving boys and girls ages 6 - 18 who are experiencing social skill and academic difficulties. While not an entrance requirement, the majority of our campers have a primary diagnosis of AD/HD, Learning Disabilities, or Asperger's while others may have a secondary or related diagnosis. In addition, a significant number of our campers are adopted. Our primary goal is to help our campers to gain knowledge and develop or improve skills. When knowledge and skills are mentioned many people think of 'hard skills' such paddling a canoe, shooting a bow and arrow, or becoming a better swimmer. We certainly cover those and more, but Camp Buckskin also teaches our campers how to make and maintain friendships, become more organized, start and finish tasks, and a host of other 'soft skills.'

## **Exceptional Vacations**

Phone: (866) 748.8747

Email: <u>info@exceptional-vacations.com</u>
Website: <u>www.exceptional-vacations.com</u>

Exceptional Vacations provides a wonderful opportunity for personal growth, normalization and socialization in a safe and fun atmosphere. We have professional staff committed to providing our travelers with the experience of a lifetime. The small group size on our vacations allows us to give the necessary attention to the special needs of all our travelers. Our travel packages are all inclusive. Vacationers only need to bring the desire for a new and rewarding experience.

#### Travel & Vacation continued . . .

## **Friendship Ventures**

Phone: (952) 852.0101 or 800.450.8376 Email: info@exceptional-vacations.com Website: www.friendshipventures.org

Friendship Ventures serves children, teens and adults with developmental disabilities and their families. Participants may also have physical disabilities, autism, cerebral palsy, attention deficit disorders (ADD/ADHD), Down syndrome, seizure disorders, sight or hearing loss or a combination of disabilities. We serve many people with severe or multiple disabilities who have no other care options. Siblings and friends are welcome to attend, too. We provide resident camps, weekend respite, special interests, sessions, specific needs sessions, as well as additional and programs & services. For more information, please visit our website.

## **Camp Courage**

Phone: (320) 963.3121 or (800) 520.0504 Email: wanda.piepgra@couragecenter.org

Website: www.couragecenter.org

Courage Center Camps offer a variety of residential camping programs and services as well as conference and retreat services. For more than 50 years, Courage Center Camps have provided camping programs for people of all ages and all physical abilities.

## **Camp Winnebago**

Phone: (507) 724.2351

Email: director@campwinnnebago.org Website: www.campwinnebago.org

Camp Winnebago serves all individuals who demonstrate developmental and cognitive disabilities, 6 to 70 years of age. We welcome individuals of all ability levels. During the summer camping season, Camp Winnebago serves 32 campers per week. Our camper

#### Travel & Vacation continued . . .

to staff ratio is 2:1, although other arrangements may be made, based on an individual's ability level, to ensure a quality experience.

## **Ironwood Springs National Wheelchair Sports & Recreation Camp**

Phone: 507-533-6707

Email: bob@ironwoodsprings.com Website: www.ironwoodsprings.com

Wheelchair Camp Highlights . . . Wheelchair Softball, Pulling Contest, Wheelchair accessible climbing wall, Wheelchair Basketball, Trail Riding, The Wild Wave, Water Skiing, Canoeing, Scuba Diving, Bowling, and more!! Contact Ironwood Springs for more information!

## **Very Special Camps Search Engine**

Website: www.veryspecialcamps.com

## Wilderness Inquiry

Phone: (800) 728.0719

Email: gateway@wildernessinguiry.org

Website:

Wilderness Inquiry shares the outdoors with everyone, including persons with intellectual and physical disabilities. Designed for adults with developmental disabilities, brain injuries, and other forms of cognitive disability, Gateway to Adventure (Gateway) is a program that helps people develop the skills they need to enjoy inclusive outdoor recreation activities. On Gateway trips, participants are provided support so they can learn and practice outdoor skills and social skills needed to have safe, enjoyable outdoor experiences. The goal of Gateway is to prepare individuals with cognitive disabilities to participate in integrated outdoor recreation activities. including Wilderness Inquiry's trips that include people with and

without disabilities as peers.